

REMARKS

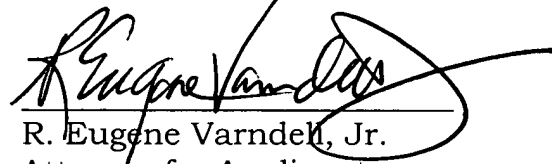
In the foregoing amendments, claims 12 and 15 were amended by changing the transitional phrase of "consisting essentially of" back to -- comprising --. The reason for this is that the applicant does not believe it is necessary to include this language in claims 12 and 15, in order to distinguish over the teachings cited thereagainst. It is respectfully noted that the transitional phrase of "consisting essentially of" remains in claim 10 and, therefore, the remarks concerning this language set forth in the response filed on December 4, 2003, apply to claim 10. A typographical change was also made to claims 12 and 15. Claims 10 and 12-16 remain in the application for consideration by the examiner.

For the reasons set forth in applicant's response filed on December 4, 2003, applicant respectfully submits that the invention set forth in claims 10 and 12-16 is patently distinguishable from the teachings of Satoh within meaning of 35 U.S.C. § 102 or 35 U.S.C. § 103. Therefore, applicant respectfully requests that the examiner reconsider and withdraw this rejection.

A formal allowance of claims 10 and 12-16 is respectfully requested. While it is believed that the present response places the application in condition for allowance, should the examiner have any comments or questions, it is respectfully requested that the undersigned be telephoned at the below listed number to resolved any outstanding issues.

In the event this paper is not timely filed, applicant hereby petitions for an appropriate extension of time. The fee therefor, as well as any other fees which may become due, may be charged to our deposit account No. 22-0256.

Respectfully submitted,
VARNDELL & VARNDELL, PLLC



R. Eugene Varndell, Jr.
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 29,728

Atty. Case No. VX012340
106-A South Columbus St.
Alexandria, VA 22314
(703) 683-9730

V:\VDOCS\W_DOCS\JAN04\PO-152-2340 SRS.DOC